



Welcome to Montana's Agro-Energy Plan Academy

A special thanks to MSU Northern for hosting the Academy!



Vision Statement: Central and Eastern Montana will have a stable population base with increasing prosperity that is supported by a globally competitive bio-products industry.

Goals:

- Develop a world-class bio-products industry that catalyzes regional economic transformation from an agricultural commodity driven economy to a value added economy that supports regional prosperity in Eastern and Central Montana.
- Develop a highly trained and stable/growing workforce to support bio-products and other value-added agricultural products.
- Create an agile, integrated talent development system (workforce, education and economic development) that will prepare state residents to act quickly to take advantage of new economic opportunities and is responsive to business needs.
- Create an inclusive and sustainable regional identity and leadership structure that will promote innovation and ensure the long-term success of the transformational initiative.

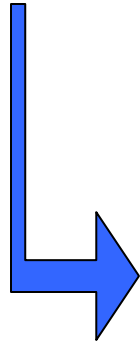


WIRED MAP evolution

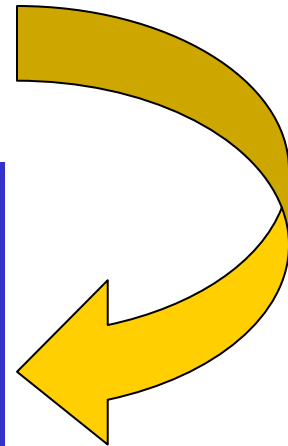
Economic Development tool

- Immediate impact on region
- Addressed Industries critical needs

Infrastructure & equipment



Federal Scope Change =



**Sustainable
Transformation of the
Workforce System**

What this evolution means

- Governor's Energy Vision
 - Aligns resources to focus on energy development
 - Develops and education and workforce system to train Montanans for future jobs in the energy sector
 - Boost the industry in the region
- Critical Industry needs cannot be met
 - Infrastructure & equipment investments
- To remain a top tier WIRED region
 - Transform the Workforce system
 - Enhanced K-12 outreach
 - Develop programs that will last beyond WIRED funding

USDOL Defines Success

- THE GOAL: Expand employment and advancement opportunities for workers while simultaneously catalyzing the creation of high-skill, high-wage jobs.
- Definition of Transformation
 1. An educated and prepared workforce
 2. Increased opportunity for post-secondary education for lifelong learning opportunities aligned with the regional talent development strategy
 3. Workforce investment system no longer operates as an array of siloed programs
 4. Operate on a regional basis with strategic partners who drive investment and align spending with a regional economic vision for talent development
 5. Economic and workforce development regions aligned and adopt common and innovative policies across the workforce, education, and economic development systems
 6. Workforce investment system is agile enough to serve the innovation economy, recognizing the reality that 2/3 of all new jobs are created by small business
 7. Workforce system actively collaborates with economic development, business, and education partners in order to gather new knowledge about regional economies and support competitiveness in the global economy

Meeting Transformation Goal

- Invest in Workforce system
- Invest in K-12 system
- Continue with Curriculum development
- Continue with producer outreach
- Continue to support bioproduct economic development through training



Montana's Workforce Pipeline





Industry Outlook

- Competitive Advantages
- Impact Producers
- Entrepreneurs
- Big Agriculture and Big Business
- Infrastructure
- Markets